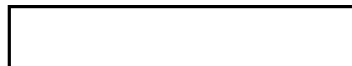


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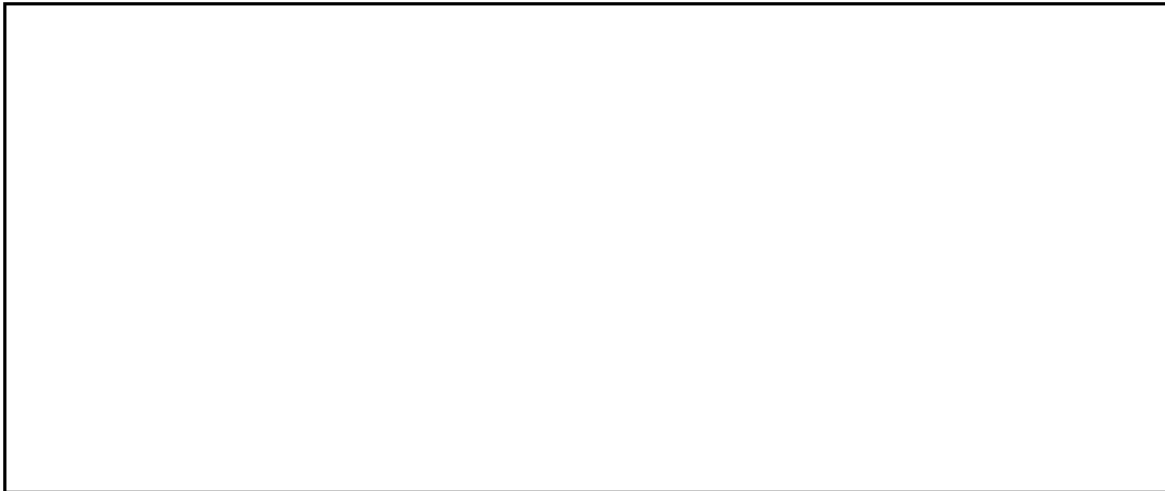
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2 December 1961

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CONTENTS

25X1



5. Communist China: Poor harvest may compel Peiping to increase grain imports. (*Page 11*)

25X1

25X1

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25X1

Communist China: Grain production in 1961 is believed to be between 165,000,000 and 180,000,000 tons--no higher than, and probably below, last year's poor harvest. With the population growing at about 14,000,000 a year, and with reserves apparently exhausted, the low harvest this year may cause an increase in malnutrition and related problems during the coming winter and spring. Under these circumstances the regime will either have to cut consumption levels further in 1962 or import more than the 5,500,000 tons of grain contracted for delivery in 1961. Larger grain imports, in the absence of foreign credits, would further reduce China's ability to finance imports of machinery and equipment, and, along with existing shortages of agricultural exports and investment funds, would prolong the economic slump and further slow down Peiping's industrialization.

25X1

2 Dec 61

DAILY BRIEF

ii

25X1

Next 2 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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Executive Offices of the White House

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The Special Assistant for National Security Affairs

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The Director, Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization

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The Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs

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